



**BASE STATION PHYSICIANS' COMMITTEE (BSPC) AND PREHOSPITAL AUDIT COMMITTEE (PAC)  
MEETINGS  
Special COVID-19 Zoom**

Tuesday, May 24, 2022 | 11:00 am  
Minutes/Notes

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS (Gary Vilke, MD)**

- Dr. Vilke called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from April 19, 2022. Motion carried.

**3. OPENING REMARKS (Kristi Koenig, MD)**

- EMS Week was celebrated last week. The County EMS team was excited to show our appreciation and meet hospital staff out in the field.
- Dr. Donofrio and her colleagues created an outstanding podcast on the importance of pain management in children. A link will be provided.
- Opportunities to mitigate the ongoing opioid epidemic were discussed. Agencies are encouraged to embrace the Leave Behind Naloxone Program. A questionnaire will be released for report outs from each agency on whether and how often the leave behind naloxone program is used.
- The situation at the United States/Mexico Border is being closely monitored. Title 42 was not lifted on May 23rd but is expected to be lifted in the near future. We are working closely with the State of California and Department of Homeland Security to put systems in place to reduce to opportunity for capacity stresses to our EMS and hospital systems as we see more people crossing the border.
- Increasing gun violence is a concern and we are considering identifying an EBM speaker on this topic for a future meeting.
- Other infectious diseases being monitored include viral hepatitis in children and global monkeypox outbreaks. EMS will develop guidance, including masking and other PPE.
- Dr. Koenig provided an update of the most recent information on the COVID-19 pandemic. We are currently experiencing another COVID surge, and the U.S. recently passed one million deaths from COVID-19. Indoor mask wearing is highly recommended.
- An FDA panel meeting is set for June 15 to evaluate the pharmaceutical applications for vaccinating children ages 6 months to 5 years old.
- Approximately 10,000 people have been treated at our monoclonal antibody regional centers (MARC's). A press conference is scheduled for Thursday at noon to celebrate this milestone.

**4. COUNTY UPDATES (Christi Robbins, RN)**

- A. American College of Surgeons (ACS) surveys for all six area Trauma Centers have concluded. The County's concurrent reviews and surveys have concluded as well.
- B. Paradise Valley Hospital is now a STEMI Receiving Center. The County EMS office recently completed a review of Paradise Valley's application to become a STEMI Receiving Center, they went live on May 2 @ 7:00 am.
- C. To reduce the risk of viral spread and in compliance with our current regulations, EMS providers are required to wear masks in all healthcare settings.

- D. EMS Protocol reviews for 2022 have concluded. The revised protocols have been finalized and distributed in advance of education and training updates. Implementation of the revised protocols are scheduled for July 1, 2022.
- E. San Diego County EMS Office Strategic Plan is underway. This new plan will align the strategic vision of County EMS with the strategic vision of County Fire. Representatives of selected stakeholder groups will be asked to join the consultant in the listening session so their voices can be heard in support and creation of the plan. Release of the new plan is expected to be this summer.
- F. San Diego County EMS office has a new logo.

**5. DATA PRESENTATION (Josh Smith, Ph.D.)**

COVID-19 and EMS Core Measures 2021

- Provided a detailed slide presentation of current COVID-19 data and EMS Core Measures 2021.

**6. MEDICATION/SUPPLY SHORTAGES/CONTRAST SHORTAGE (Christi Robbins, RN)**

- Pharmaceutical back orders continue to present challenges to our paramedic agencies. Several medications are currently in shortage and some agencies have reached critical stock levels.
- Please see the EMS Medical Director's memo posted to the County EMS website for guidance.
- For hospitals encountering contrast media supply shortages, please refer to AFL 22-10 dated May 16, 2022. This all facilities letter provides a notice of supply chain issues related to the availability of contrast media. The shortage is expected to affect healthcare facilities until late June 2022.

**7. TREATMENT ON GURNEY WORKGROUP UPDATE (Gary Vilke, MD)**

- The Treatment on Gurney Workgroup meeting went well. A general consensus exists regarding radiology studies being done, IVs started, and meds delivered while the patient is still on the gurney, and paramedics have not turned over care.
- Group is working on deficiencies, more information to come.

**8. SAN DIEGO RESUSCITATION CONSORTIUM WORKGROUP (Saul Levine, MD)**

- Currently in the early stages of establishing this consortium. Obtaining names of interested clinical stakeholders and hospital reps who would like to participate.
- Will be sending out an invite to get the workgroup started.
- Overall goals of group:
  1. Expedite care of a subset of cardiac arrest patients with ECPR/ECMO.
  2. Get a consensus regarding how the receiving hospitals and ED's have been offered this service 24/7 can work together to establish criteria for transport, certification of sites, quality going forward. Similar to the Trauma System but on a much smaller scale.
  3. Cardiac arrest management
- Please contact Dr. Levine for more information.

**9. BASE HOSPITAL NURSE COORDINATORS (BHNC) REPORT (Chris Wells, RN)**

- EKGs on STEMI patients, reminder to please send EKG to the receiving hospital.

**10. PARAMEDIC INTERNSHIP UPDATE (Jason Hums)**

- There is a growing need for more qualified paramedics in San Diego County.
- Ambulance services, fire departments and hospitals are all taking as many paramedic students as they can for their hospital and field rotations.
- Paramedic training programs are limited by the number of intern placements and hospital rotations we can get for them. Please be mindful of requesting rotations on ambulances that are beyond the required time for your personnel.

**11. ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS/BSPC ADJOURNMENT (Gary Vilke, MD)**

The BSPC meeting was adjourned at 11:37 am. The next BSPC/PAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 28, 2022.